Applicant: Shou Nagao et al. Attorney's Docket No.: 12732-206001 / US6909

Serial No.: New Application Filed: January 14, 2004

Page : 18 of 18

REMARKS

Claims 1-57 are pending in the application with claims 1-6 being independent. Claims 7, 9 and 11-14 have been amended and new claims 15-57 have been added to remove the multiple dependency and improper multiple dependency. No new matter has been added.

Applicants ask that the application be examined in view of the amendments and remarks made herein. Please apply any charges or credits, with the exception of the filing fee, to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: January 14, 2004

John F. Hayden Reg. No. 37,640

Customer No. 26171

Fish & Richardson P.C. 1425 K Street, N.W., 11th Floor Washington, DC 20005-3500 Telephone: (202) 783-5070

Facsimile: (202) 783-2331

40197803.doc